The People's Korea

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Pyongyang Proposes Preparatory Comm. for Nat'l Reunion, Stops All Its Propaganda against South Feb. 1

Fatherland Front

PYONGYANG, Feb. 5 (KCNA)—The Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland issued a statement proposing the formation of a preparatory committee for national reunification to replace the north-south coordination commission.

Follows the full text of the statement:

As is known, we put forward the four-point proposals for peaceful reunification in the January 23 statement and took a series of concrete measures for their implementation.

In the January 27 statement we proposed to open talks of working-level representatives for the convocation of the whole-nation congress earlier than had been proposed, in early April, if possible. Through the statement of the Korean Central News Agency on January 31 we solemnly announced internally and externally the reaffirmation of the idea and principles of the July 4 joint statement and total discontinuation of censure against the other side.

The proposals advanced by our side and all our measures for their realisation are an expression of the sincere desire to open the door of dialogue at any cost and promote the reunification of the country.

Proceeding from the stand of bringing a dialogue between the north and south to maturity at an earlier date, we state today as follows representing the will of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Workers' Party of Korea and other political parties and public organizations:

As for the coordination commission referred to by the south Korean side in its January 31 statement, it played a certain role and was necessary in rejoining the severed ties of the nation and coordinating the north-south relations at the time when the tightly closed door of north-south dialogue opened for the first time.

But, today when the historic tasks for solving the reunification question by the general will of the whole nation by such a means as a whole-nation congress are put on the order of the day and voices are rising higher at home and abroad expressing a desire to directly participate in the dialogue and negotiation for reunification, it is impossible to carry out the great cause of the whole nation in accordance with the will of the entire compatriots through such an extremely limited body as the coordination commission, and it has already become unsuitable.

In fact, the coordination commission failed to fully reflect the general will of the nation and live up to the expectation of the whole nation and eventually lost the significance of its existence.

The prevailing situation urgently demands we take a new progressive measure for practically arranging a dialogue for reunification.

This is why we propose to inaugurate the preparatory committee for national reunification to replace the coordination commission as a preliminary consultative body for an all-national dialogue and negotiation.

The preparatory committee for national reunification may be represented by the political parties and organizations at home and abroad aspiring after national reconciliation and peaceful reunification, the authorities of the north and south included, and as for its composition it may be formed with a small number of persons.

The preparatory committee for national reunification will discuss the problem of convening the whole-nation congress and a number of problems arising in the preparations for the final reunification of the country.

If the preparatory committee for national reunification is formed and operated, it will overcome the limitations of the coordination commission and open the road for solving in a most democratic and most effective way the reunification problem, fully reflecting the will and interests of the whole nation in conformity with the idea and principles of the July 4 joint statement which represents the common desire of the nation.

In order to make arrangements for the formation of the preparatory committee for national reunification, we propose that the liaison representative of the side of the north and the liaison representative of the side of the south meet at Panmunjom at 12 hours on February 20.

We expect an affirmative response of the south Korean side to the above-mentioned proposals of ours.

Pyongyang
February 5, 1979.

KCNA Statement

PYONGYANG, Jan. 31 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland in its statement January 23 put forward the new four-point proposals for promoting the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and proposed that the authorities of both sides officially make public, first of all, their attitude of reaffirming and observing the idea and principles of the July 4 joint statement at 10 a.m. February 1, 1979, and that the north and south put an immediate end to calumnies and slanders against the other side.

Upon authorization the Korean Central News Agency expresses the stand of our side concerning this proposal as follows:

1. Considering that both the north and south should return to the idea and principles of the July 4 joint statement and pave the way to dialogue and reunification at the earliest date, we reaffirm that we will in the future, too, as in the past, honestly implement them.

Firstly, we invariably hold fast to our consistent stand to be true to the lofty idea of the July 4 joint statement on preventing the permanent split of the nation and reunifying the country.

Secondly, we continue to firmly abide by the principles of national reunification, namely, reunifying the country independently without reliance upon outside force or its interference, solving the reunification problem peacefully without recourse to the use of arms and achieving great national unity transcending differences in ideology, idea and system and make every effort possible to translate them into practice.

2. Considering that the discontinuation of calumnies and slanders against the other side is a precious first step toward terminating confrontation and antagonism between the north and south, achieving national reconciliation and unity and embodying the idea and principles of the July 4 joint statement, we declare internally and externally that we take the following steps:

Firstly, we discontinue criticizing the idea and system of the other side and conducting propaganda which may be regarded as an attack on a specified person.

Secondly, we discontinue censuring the other side through radios, TVs, newspapers and other publications run by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and by the political parties, organizations and organs in the northern half.

Thirdly, we discontinue propaganda and functions which may incite confrontation and antagonism between the north and south by any of such means or methods as mass meeting and oral or visual propaganda.

Fourthly, we carry the above-mentioned steps into effect at 10 a.m. February 1, 1979, in the whole area of the northern half.

We express the hope that the south Korean side will also take relevant steps in conformity with the ardent desire of the entire fellow countrymen for north-south dialogue and peaceful reunification.

Pyongyang, January 31, 1979.

President Ceausescu Backs 4-Point Proposal

President Kim Il Sung received a message from President Nicolae Ceausescu, supporting the Jan. 23 statement of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, KCNA reported on Feb. 1.

The message reads:

Respected Comrade Kim Il Sung,

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, the Romanian people and myself, I send this friendly message of warm comradely greetings and best wishes to you and the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the entire Korean people.

We, the entire party and people have learned with deep satisfaction about the recent statement of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which, as part of the steady efforts made by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, by you yourself, dear Comrade Kim Il Sung, is making fresh and important proposals for the peaceful, independent and democratic reunification of Korea.

We are highly appreciative of this remarkable political action of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which is pervaded by humanistic spirit and high responsibility for the destiny of the Korean people, for the cause of peace and security in Asia and the world over.

The new four-item proposals elaborated under your direct guidance and care are an eloquent expression of the constructive policy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and its sincere desire to approach the problems of Korea's reunification by means of peaceful talks among the Koreans themselves without any outside mixture.

Under the present-day international circumstances, these proposals are highly significant, proving the incontestable fact that the most complex problems, any kind of litigious problems, can be approached in a new, rational way—politically—totally avoiding the use of force, of military confrontations.

This is the sole way of securing a durable settlement of international issues, in harmony with the people's interests and aspirations for peace, progress and prosperity.

That is why we hope that the new initiative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will find due echo in the southern part of Korea and will enjoy the active support of world public opinion.

The Romanian people, that nurtures feelings of deep valuation of and fraternal solidarity with the Korean people, with its righteous struggle for the attainment of the supreme national desire of national unity backs most resolutely the recent proposals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and addresses its wishes for full success in accomplishing its aspirations to live in a reunified, free and prosperous country.

On the other hand, President Ceausescu gave his support to the consistent efforts of the DPRK for the earlier realization of the Korean reunion in an exclusive interview with the Deputy Managing Editor and Foreign News Editor of the Japanese paper "Asahi Shimbun" on Jan. 23.

On the Korean reunification problem, he said:

As is known, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea firmly stands for the settlement of Korea's problems: for reunification by peaceful negotiations. On this line, the recent proposals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are of major significance and show a high sense of humanism as well as a profound sense of responsibility toward the Korean people, the cause of socialism and peace in Asia and all over the world. They prove that even the most complex problems can be approached in a constructive spirit, rationally, by political negotiations, in an endeavor to find, for their settlement, forms acceptable to the sides concerned, totally avoiding the use of force or military confrontations.

The present international circumstances, the events which have occurred lately are, in my opinion, favorable conditions for the development of Korea's peaceful reunification process. In this sense, we would like the USA to show more realism and take action to favor the dialogue between the two parties so as to achieve, as speedily as possible, the peaceful unification of the Korean people. Likewise, it is in the interest of all neighbor states—including Japan—as well as of all countries to actively support the unification of Korea, which will contribute to the strengthening of security and political stability in Asia, and international life as a whole.

Growing World-Wide Support to DPRK's Peace Initiative

Latin American, Caribbean Conf. On Korea Reunion Held in Guyana

The Latin American and Caribbean conference for supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea was held from Jan. 26 to 28 in Georgetown, the capital of Guyana.

The conference was attended by Ptolemy A. Reid, General Secretary of the People's National Congress of Guyana and Deputy Prime Minister, government officials of Guyana, representatives of governments, political parties and public organisations and observers from Latin American and Caribbean countries, some 300 in all.

The delegation of the DPRK headed by Han Ik Su was invited to the conference.

Also invited were DPRK ambassador to Guyana Li Jun Ok, diplomatic envoys of foreign countries and staff members of diplomatic missions in Guyana.

A message of greeings sent by President Kim Il Sung to the conference was read out amid a stormy applause of the attendants at the opening session.

Also conveyed were messages of greetings from Linden Forbes Sampson Burnham, Prime Minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, and political parties, public organisations and noted personages of many countries.

The conference is presided over by Robert Corbin, First Vice-Chairman of the People's National Congress of Guyana and Minister of State. An opening address was made by B. Ramsaroop, Chairman of the People's National Congress of Guyana and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

Chairman of the Preparatory Committee of the Conference Robert Corbin made a keynote report and Cuban, Colombian and Venezuelan delegates made supplementary reports at the conference.

Many delegates took the floor at the conference.

A letter to President Kim Il Sung was unanimously adopted amid a stormy applause of the attendants at the conference.

The conference also adopted a letter to Prime Minister Linden Forbes Sampson Burnham.

Then an appeal and a resolution were adopted at the conference.

Referring to the statement of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, the resolution fully supported the four-point proposals for reunification.

The resolution called for conducting various forms of international campaigns, such as mass meeting, demonstration and signature campaign for supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and recommended the formation of an organization for solidarity with the Korean people and the expansion of the existing solidarity organizations in this region.

A mass rally supporting the conference was held on the evening of Jan. 28 in Georgetown.

Foreign Mass Media

The Jan. 23 4-point proposals of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland of Korea are now being received by the world public with greater support. The foreign mass media including socialist and non-aligned countries have given wide publicity to the latest peace initiative of the DPRK's concrete proposals for promoting the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea.

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The Soviet paper "Pravda" on Feb. 2 carried a commentary headlined "Call for Dialogue" in support of the statement of the CC of the DFRF.

The paper said:

The Statement of the CC of the DFRF is another step taken on the road of normalizing the situation of the Korean Peninsula and solving the urgent problems of the Korean people. It held that the two sides should reaffirm the basic principles of the July 4, 1972, north-south joint statement and strictly observe them. As is known, its keynote is that the reunification of the country should be achieved peacefully on a democratic basis by the Korean people themselves without reliance upon outside force or any outside interference.

The CC of the DFRF proposed that an immediate end be put to calumnies and slanders against each other and all military actions antagonizing the opposing side be discontinued unconditionally.

The statement points to the necessity of convening the whole-nation congress represented by all political parties, public organizations and people of all walks of life in the north and south.

Despite every effort of the DPRK to normalize the relations between the north and south, tension persists on the Korean Peninsula now. Facts show that the U.S. troops' occupation of south Korea is the basic obstacle lying in the way of the solution of the national questions of the Korean people. As long as the foreign troops remain on the Korean Peninsula, a peaceful reunification on a democratic basis is impossible.

The Soviet people express solidarity with the Korean people in their desire to live in one democratic state. The Soviet people support the new initiative of the CC of the DFRF. There is no doubt that the initiative will be understood and supported by all people who are truly concerned for a correct solution of the Korean question and the establishment of a durable peace in this area.

The Yugoslav news agency "Tanjug" on Jan. 30 published an article headlined "On Prospects for Korea's Unification" supporting the statement of the CC of the DFRF.

Tanjug said:

The initiatives have been received in both the United Nations and world public with outstanding interest and attention. Reactions coming from a number of world capitals indicate that the initiatives are treated as a major topic in international affairs.

Pyongyang has come forth with a very precise and detailed proposal for a dialogue. The proposal includes a series of very concrete measures for overcoming the present status quo.

The presence of foreign troops in south Korea represents the basic obstacle to a peaceful and democratic unification of the country. This presence is also part of efforts towards perpetuating the artificial division of Korea which is contrary to aspirations of the people of Korea as a whole. Efforts so far and initiatives of the DPRK to start a direct dialogue with the United States on the evacuation of foreign troops have not achieved any results.

Judging by UN reactions convictions are that the UN will not ignore the latest initiatives for the unification of Korea. Rather, the UN received these initiatives with due attention and interest.

The final decision rests with the people of Korea for whom it should be made possible to decide on its destiny without any outside interference, Tanjug emphasized.

The Romanian paper "Scinteia," the organ of the CC of the Romanian Communist Party, Jan. 26, carried an article under the headline "Very Responsible and Highly Humanitarian Proposals for Korean People's Cause of Reunification, Relaxation of Tension and Interests of Peace and Security."

The article said:

For their boldness, feasibility and reasonableness, the July 4 north-south joint statement and the proposals of the DPRK enjoy high appraisal in the world arena and warm welcome among all the progressive and democratic forces in south Korea, evoking wide-spread repercussions among them.

Noting the statement of the CC of the DFRF, a new expression of a high sense of responsibility for the destiny of the Korean people, advanced concrete four-point proposals for the discussion of the reunification question, solemnly calling for the resumption of the dialogue, the article introduced their content.

The article said:

The reunification of Korea will have an extensive international in-

(Continued on page 2)

KOREA FOCUS

All-Korea Congress Vs Talks Between Those in Authority

Pyongyang Feb. 5 proposed the formation of a National Reunification Preparatory Committee amid the worldwide attention being drawn to north-south Korean talks. The move is a counterproposal to the Seoul side's demand for resumption of the North-South Coordinating Commission. The DPRK is calling for a broader-based reunification preparatory council to be created, since the north-south coordinating body proved incapable of dealing with the paramount national issue, on the grounds that the convocation of a pan-national congress is urgent.

Who Favors Reunification?

The crux of the problem at present is who really favors the effort for reunification.

President Kim Il Sung Sep. 9 last year declared his government and people ready to negotiate with the Americans and the south Koreans the peaceful settlement of the Korean reunification. He was addressing the central celebration of the 30th anniversary of the DPRK. The south Koreans he referred to include the ruling authorities, political parties and public organizations.

Then came the Jan. 23 four-point proposal (The People's Korea, Jan. 31) from the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, a specific package plan for north-south reintegration which is based on the position set forth by President Kim Il Sung. The four-point package proposal stipulates: the reaffirmation of the July, 1972 north-south joint statement, the cessation of any act of increasing mutual distrust or sharpening north-south tensions and the convocation of a whole-nation congress. To this end, Pyongyang came out with a proposal for holding a working-level meeting early in April. The DPRK, announcing its return to the spirit of the July 4 joint statement, took unilateral steps to stop all the calumnies and slanders against the south starting from Feb. 1. These proposals and steps demonstrate how serious the DPRK is in its search for a peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula.

What is the proposed pan-national congress like? To be brief, it is a general assembly speaking for the fifty million Korean people as a whole. Represented there will be all the north and south Korean political parties, public organizations, patriotic personalities and overseas Korean colonies. Needless to say, representatives of the northern and southern authorities would be invited to participate.

Why All-Korea Congress Necessary?

Why is such congress necessary? The reunification issue is never a partisan matter but at stake is the destiny of the whole Korean people. Its solution is vital to the survival of Korean nationhood. Any Korean, no matter where he or she lives, in the north or in the south or abroad, has an inalienable right to concern himself or herself with the reunification question.

The convocation of a pan-national congress has its own value as an effective national forum because the Pak junta is a militaristic dictatorial regime unable to represent any social sector in the south. Talks would become possible if democracy were revived in south Korea, with a democratic government being established. Such democratic government might be considered to be a spokesman of the public yearning for national reunification.

However, the Pak junta has no public support as clearly shown in the returns of the "National Assembly election" held last December. The "election" was a farce staged under a rein of terror with "emergency decree No. 9" still in force. Missing was a free debate on the issues facing the nation. Criticism of the Pak junta was penalized. A most outstanding fact about it was that numerous democratic and patriotic people were disfranchized. A public boycott was attempted, while the ruling party was engrossed in all sorts of irregularities, using "government" powers, money and violence. The outcome was disheartening to the Democratic Republican Party: it finished far behind the opposition New Democratic Party in terms of votes garnered. It is widely known that the Pak junta is an odd man out in the international community of states. A most illustrative evidence is the absence of any foreign dignitaries, including the Japanese premier, at the "inauguration ceremony" of the "president" held in Seoul at the end of last year.

The fact that the Pak junta is cracking hard on the democratic forces advocating reunification means that the Pak junta is opposed to reunification—a champion of the split of the country. It is senseless and waste of time to conduct talks with the secessionists.

Given these facts, it is no doubt that the afore-said pan-national assembly emerges as the most reasonable way of north-south reunification talks.

North-south talks are designed to bring about a reunification, not to perpetuate the division.

Replay of Same Pattern

The chief objective of the Korean policy of the U.S. Government is now to preserve "two Koreas." Their proposed "cross recognition" and "six-power conference" are all aimed at attaining the goal of the "two-Korea" policy. Suffice to say that the Pak junta is not in a position to resist this American policy aim.

Dictated from Washington, the Pak junta is trying to get international approval of the so-called "separate UN membership" and "a non-aggression pact." The assumption of the two proposals is the consolidation of the north and the south as "two states."

In south Korea today as "president" Pak Jung Hi alone is empowered to make any reunification policy, whereas an ordinary citizen is prohibited from expressing his or her view on the reunification issue. The "National Conference for Reunification" is nominally an agency charged with deliberating the reunification matter at the request of the "president." But this organ has never discussed it. In 1972 when north-south talks were under way the south Koreans approved of all the abstract suggestions but opposed their being elaborated on the grounds that they were "premature" or "unrealistic." They repeated a similar pattern of behavior in the present series of proposals and counterproposals concerning resumed north-south talks. First, the Pak junta made an affirmative response to the Jan. 23 proposals and agreed to the holding of a working-level meeting which the south Koreans insisted be held earlier than June. When the Pyongyang side moved to hold it early in April, the Seoul side all of a sudden escalated their slanders against the former. Pak Jung Hi is reported to have warned at a "cabinet meeting" on Jan. 26 that euphoria and optimism were restrained. Looking back on the past, in 1971, the Pak junta declared "state of emergency" on the pretext of an imaginary "threat from the north" in the wake of the start of north-south Red Cross talks. In 1972, immediately after the beginning of north-south political negotiations, the Pak junta carried out "the October yusin revitalization" in order to strengthen its dictatorial grip on the south Korean society. The present conduct of Seoul looks like a repetition of the past performance.

The Pak junta is behaving itself in a bigoted and insincere way, revealing its hostility to the reunification effort. The motive behind the Pak junta's persistent call for "talks between those in power" is to spread an illusion about the reunification issue and use it for making "two Koreas" fait accompli.

Pak Jung Hi clamored for "resumption of talks without prior conditions" but as it turned out, he has attached the worst precondition to it by sticking to the talks between the two authorities—talks for division.

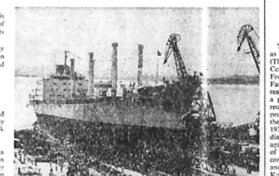
Anyhow, the reunification issue is an urgent matter whose solution brooks no delay. North-south relations cannot be permitted any longer to remain in such state of confrontation. Therefore, the DPRK has regarded Pak Jung Hi's move as an affirmative response to its reunification policy and proposed broader based forum to talk with the south Koreans including the Pak junta.

Any sincere advocates of reunification cannot take issue with the proposed pan-national congress.

Nampo Emerges as Int'l Trade Port

Nampo is now becoming a major international port city as the DPRK is making efforts to increase its exports. This picture is emerging from a series of on-the-spot guidance to the port city by President Kim Il Sung and latest reports from Pyongyang.

Nampo situated at the estuary of the River Taedong-gang is the gateway to Pyongyang and is playing a great role in developing the country's foreign trade, like New York of the United States, Yokohama and Kobe of Japan, and Marseille of France.



The Nampo Shipyard (South Pyongan Prov.) built and launched on August 23 last year 20,000-ton cargo ship "Youpung-ho."

Vast projects are now under way for building new wharfs, carrying freight by self-propelled pontoons to big cargo ships, constructing new railway lines and roads and introducing industrial television into the port. These projects are expected to be completed soon.

The construction of new wharfs and the project of laying railway sidings are to be completed before March 15 and a dock will be built within the first half of the year.

During recent Jan. 21 on-the-spot guidance to Nampo, President Kim Il Sung gave teachings on expanding foreign trade and the improved administration of Nampo Port.

In developing foreign trade, he said, it was important to successfully carry out the construction of Nampo Port and well manage it and upgrade railway transport. He stressed that an effective organizational work was required to send out in time the export goods produced.

As for the modernization of the port facilities, President Kim Il Sung urged the introduction of industrial television, construction of more warehouses and the expansion of transport by belt conveyers and pipe-lines at the port.

Freight, the President declared, must not be left piled up at the port and the wharfs must not be used as warehouses.

The effective use of freight containers was highly eradicated by the President as necessary for carrying cargoes to the port in good time and mechanizing loading and unloading at boats.

The presidential remarks are based on the huge potential of Nampo City as international trade station. Look at what the city is like.

Before liberation Nampo was a backward city far removed from modern civilisation. But today the city is an industrial centre with a modern heavy industry and light industry, a leading fishery base on the west coast and a foreign trade centre. Modern multi-storeyed flats and public buildings stand in rows there.

On the scenic Wau-do Island there is a large recreation centre furnished with a good swimming beach, a boating place, sand field, pavilions and various public service facilities. Neat parks are found here and there in the city, together with a large sports village extending 200,000 square metres in its area. A modern theatre there has a seating capacity of 1,500. There are also nearly 70 schools at all levels including a normal college, a teachers' college, a technical college, an agricultural college, hundreds of nurseries and kindergartens, a people's hospital, clinics and therapeutic and prophylactic organs.

Dotted there are many industrial plants producing non-ferrous metals, glass, machines, building-materials, chemicals and consumer goods. Among them prominent are scores of centrally controlled industrial factories: for example the Nampo Smeltery, the Nampo Glass Factory and the Nampo Shipyard. Side by side with them are more than 50 local industrial factories, such as a daily necessaries factory, clothing factory and paper mill.

The Nampo Smeltery is a leading producer of finished non-ferrous goods in hundreds of kinds of different standards and qualities.

The Nampo Glass Factory is the nation's foremost glass producer. Now the factory produces a sufficient amount of plate glass and glassware to meet the domestic needs.

The city's local industry has made rapid progress and now produces all kinds of goods for daily use. It fully meets the city's demand and sent a large quantity of surplus goods to other parts of the country.

The city has a fishery station and many fishermen's cooperatives as well as the West Sea Fishery Research Instute and a fishery college.

The Nampo Shipyard has built big cargo ships including the 20,000-ton cargo ship "Yonpung-ho."

As President Kim Il Sung put it in the 1979 New Year address, the reason for greater importance attached to foreign trade is that the foreign relations of the country have been expanded considerably and its economy has become larger in scale. The country has already entered into diplomatic relations with some 100 countries. In particular, the DPRK is making efforts to establish a new international economic order by exchanging experiences and techniques with socialist countries and the Third World countries. Trade is actively being conducted with the capitalist countries, too.

The rapid growth of the national economy is amazing enough and calls for improved foreign trade. The industrial output of 1977 was 196 times that of 1946. The industrial output value of 1978 increased 19 per cent compared with that of 1977.

"Developing foreign trade is of importance in boosting production through an effective utilization of the existing production capacities, in consolidating the independent national economy and promoting the friendly and cooperative relations with many countries of the world," to borrow the words of President Kim Il Sung.

In foreign trade, the DPRK Government sticks to the principles of equality and mutual benefit and reciprocity. Credit is of great significance to brisk deals.

President Kim Il Sung established the credit-first principle as a leg to the DPRK's foreign trade.

The country's key exports are: industrial equipment, universal lathes, vertical milling machines, transformers, zinc concentrates, magnesia clinker, high speed steel, chemica fertilizer, cement, sheet and plate glass, sulfic dyes, ceramics, silk fabrics, raw silks, processed foodstuffs, etc. And the country's major imports are: special machinery, raw cotton, crude rubber, crude oil, etc.

Photo shows Nampo Port

Closer Look at Pyongyang's 4-Point Proposal

The latest four-point proposals as set forth in the Jan. 23 statement (The People's Korea, Jan. 31) of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland are most attractive and reasonable ways of bringing about a peaceful settlement of the Korean reunification issue. The four-point proposals call for a reaffirmation by the north and the south of the July 4, 1972 joint statement, urge an immediate end to calumnies and slanders against each other, demand cessation of hostile military actions and discontinuation of weapons imports and propose convocation of an all-Korean congress of representatives of all political parties and public organizations in the north and the south to be held early in September in Pyongyang or Seoul.

Preoccupation with North-South Talks

The Jan. 23 four-point proposals sound extremely sweet and acceptable because they are a graphic proof of the DPRK's preoccupation with north-south dialogue as essential to the Korean Peninsula's independent and peaceful reunification. As President Kim Il Sung put it, "The question of Korean reunification should be solved in a peaceful way through a dialogue in compliance with the demand of our people and the desire of the peoples the world over." It is the long-standing position of the DPRK that the reunification issue must and can be brought to a negotiated settlement.

The DPRK regards resumption of north-south dialogue as urgently needed. In his remarks prepared for delivery at the Sep. 9, 1978 celebration of the 30th anniversary of his government, President Kim Il Sung declared, "We leave the door open for a conversation with the United States and with the south Korean authorities and political parties, too." Resumed north-south dialogue, the DPRK firmly holds, must concern itself with the specific ways and means of achieving an independent and peaceful reunification of Korea. The major premise of such talks should be that Korea is one nation and one state. Talks are necessary because the country is divided and because the fifty million Koreans agree on the overriding importance of its earlier reunification. Talks need not be resumed and make no sense at all if they are supposed to produce a north-south agreement on "two Koreas."

Return to July 4 Joint Statement

The call for a return to the spirit of the July 4, 1972 north-south joint statement is irresistible indeed. An acceptable durable framework must be available for successful north-south talks. It must be creditable domestically and internationally, otherwise resumed talks would go nowhere. The need for such framework can fully be met by the reaffirmation of the spirit and principles of the north-south joint statement, an historic agreement signed by the northern and southern authorities which received a wholehearted public support north and south and won a unanimous international endorsement at the United Nations Organization.

The north-south joint statement reads in part (The People's Korea, Jan. 13).

"Firstly, reunification should be achieved independently, without reliance upon outside force or its interference.

"Secondly, reunification should be achieved by peaceful means, without recourse to the use of arms against the other side.

"Thirdly, great national unity as one nation should be promoted first of all, transcending the differences of ideology, ideal and social system."

The principle of independence obliges the Korean people to exploit their own resources for the settlement of the Korean reunification question: the right of each nation to self-determination must be fully exercised and intervention from abroad totally rejected. It is too clear that the Korean people are capable of finding their own indigenous solution to their national question. The second principle of peaceful reunification makes it imperative for the reunification process to be free from any slandering each other which may result into confrontation and armed conflict and for the use of force to be prevented under any circumstances. A new round of war is certain to expand into an international war, leaving the whole Korean land in ruins and spelling nuclear holocaust to the world. A hard fact is that there is no physical and moral reason whatsoever to attempt at starting war in order to reunify the country. As people say united, the house stands and divided, the house falls. National unity is crucial to a north-south reintegration. The Korean people are known as having lived together on the Korean Peninsula thousands of years as a rare homogeneous nation. The principle of national unity is all the more important because of the present difference in ideologies, ideals and social systems. The two sides should not try to impose their respective ideas and systems on each other.

Moratorium on Propaganda Warfare And on Military Action

The nature of reunification talks calls for an end to mud-slinging and hostile military actions with an embargo placed on imports of weapons. The DPRK declared a moratorium on propaganda war against the south effective from Feb. 1. The proposals for discontinuing slanders against each other and hostile military acts are courageous and excellent, which make the latest DPRK peace initiative quite attractive and reasonable. The Korean people at home and abroad and the international community of nations laud the DPRK's firm commitment to the peaceful search for national reunification as a great contribution to the preservation of peace and security in Asia and in the rest of the world.

Slandering carries with a strong risk of armed clashes and never helps to create an atmosphere of mutual confidence and understanding indispensable for north-south rapprochement. Slandering amounts to denying the other side its existence and must be taboo within the homogeneous Korean nation. The action taken by the Pyongyang side to stop all its verbal attacks on the south can be interpreted as the obvious lack of any intention on the part of the DPRK to impose its ideas and system on the south Korean side. It is safe to state that the moratorium clamped on propaganda war illustrate a calm view by the DPRK of the reality on the Korean Peninsula divided into two differing systems.

The offer of the DPRK to stop all hostile actions of military nature may be called dramatic proposal aimed at delivering the whole Korean nation and the world from nuclear holocaust. The continuing arms buildup and war games are bringing Korea closer to the brink of war, posing a serious menace to the peace and security of Northeast Asia and the Pacific region. It is only natural for participants in peace talks to lay down their arms. It is ridiculous for people to talk peace with their loaded guns ready. Refusal to respond in kind to the DPRK proposal will leave no doubt in the minds of the Korean people and the peace-loving peoples of the world that the DPRK alone is sincerely eager to preserve peace and security and achieve an independent peaceful reunification of the country. Acceptance of the DPRK proposal will make it possible for huge military spending and large numbers of troops to be sharply reduced with the surplus diverted to the improvement of the economic fabrics and the welfare of the people at large. It should also be remembered that the DPRK has repeatedly denied that it is contemplating "an invasion of the south." It is agreed among military experts here that Pyongyang has neither imported any weapons from abroad nor conducted any joint war exercises with any of its allies.

Convocation of Whole-Nation Congress

It is a long-held position of the DPRK that all the Korean people in all walks of life have every reason to have their views heard and reflected in the solution of the reunification issue. This is motive behind the proposal to have a pan-national congress to be attended by representatives of all political parties, public organizations, and individual persons in the north and the south and overseas Koreans. Every Korean has vital stakes in the solution of the reunification question as the matter involves restoration of Koreanism as the supreme principle of the country. It is far from an issue to be handled by a limited number of ruling classes or vested interests.

Particularly noteworthy is the fact that the yearning for national reunification is shared by all the political partties, public organizations, individual persons north and south and abroad, who insist on attending any reunification talks. The North-South Coordinating Commission has lost its raison d'etre long ago because of its inherent limitations and produced no desired result. Time has come to replace it with a greatly expanded forum aimed at discussing the aspects of the reunification issue. It is also true that limiting north-south reunification talks to the people in power is tantamount to dealing with the matter as state-to-state relations, not as a domestic affair of a homogeneous nation. A pan-national congress will emerge most authoritative and most democratic as it is to be guided by the fundamental principle of national unity and Korean identity which will transcend any differing views arising therefrom.

The Pyongyang proposals are marked by a specific program concerning the principles, the reduction of hostilities, clear dates and places for reunification moves and inviting to the proposed forum wide sectors from the two sides and from Korean communities abroad.

Int'l Solidarity Movement for Korea Reunion

The current unreserved international support the Jan. 23 4-point package reunification proposal received is an indicator of how firmly the world public stand by the Korean people's cause of the independent peaceful reunification of the country. Recent years, and in particular last year saw a dramatic increase in the amount of world-wide sympathy with the Korean reunification struggle.

Today the Korean reunification problem is not only the Korean people's unanimous desire but also is becoming an urgent problem in guaranteeing peace in Asia and in the rest of the world.

The Korea reunion-support movement is becoming an international one and is gaining in scope and strength with each passing day.

Since the end of 1975, solidarity organisations for supporting Korea's reunion has been formed one after another the world over and now its number totals 70 in 54 countries.

The First World Conference for Korea's Reunification was successfully held in Brusselles in February 1977.

Last year alone, four large-scale Korea reunion-support meetings were held in various regions of the world—Paris, Melbourne, Helsinki and Damascus.

Furthermore, the Second World Conference for Korea's reunification was held in Tokyo from Nov. 27 to 29.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Minister's Conference held in Belgrade, Yugoslavia at the end of July simultaneously adopted a declaration supporting the reunification policy of the DPRK.

Follow brief accounts of these meetings and conferences.

The West European Regional Meeting of Solidarity for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea was held in Paris (Ivry) on April 23.

The meeting was attended by many political parties and public organisations, parliamentarians, university professors and men of the press in France, and from Italy, Portugal, Belgium, Switzerland, Britain, Norway, Finland and other West European countries.

The meeting closed with success after adopting a statement of the West European Regional Meeting of Solidarity for the Independent Peaceful Reunification of Korea, an action programme and an appeal to the governments, parliaments, political parties and public organisations of West European countries and a letter to the south Korean people.

The Foreign Ministers' Conference of the Non-Aligned Countries held from Jul. 25 to 30, in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, displayed a unanimous support of the non-aligned countries for the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea.

The Ministerial Conference was attended by delegates from 116 nations, including observers and guests.

The declaration adopted at the conference contained a paragraph expressing full support to the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea and demanded the replacement of the armistice agreement by a peace agreement.

The delegates of many countries such as Afghanistan, Democratic Yemen, Laos, Nepal and Ethiopia expressed their support and solidarity for the just struggle of the Korean people for the reunification in the speeches at the plenary session.

An Australian National Conference on Korean Reunification was held in Melbourne on July 23.

It was attended by many representatives from all sections of the labour and progressive movement—representatives from: The Communist Party of Australia, the Socialist Party of Australia, the Union of Australian Women, the Committee for International Cooperation and Disarmament, the Plumbers and Gasfitters Union, the Seamen's Union, the Amalgamated Metal Workers and Shipwright's Union and the Australia-DPRK Committee.

The conference endorsed a statement and a letter to President Kim Il Sung, demanding independent peaceful reunification of Korea and is denouncing "two-Korea" plot of the U.S. and the Pak junta.

A Nordic seminar for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and the first meeting of the Nordic Cooperation Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Korean people were held in Helsinki on Sep. 2.

The seminar was attended by delegates from Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Iceland, representatives of Finnish political parties and public organisations and many people of various strata.

There were discussed at the seminar and the first meeting questions of opposing the "two Koreas" plot of the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique and their new war provocation manoeuvres and violation of human rights and strengthening support and solidarity for the struggle of the Korean people to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

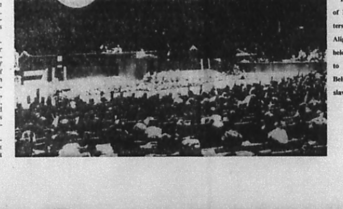
A solidarity conference of the Asian region supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea was held in Damascus on Sep. 19 and 20 with a large attendance from Asian countries including Syria, Malaysia, Cyprus, Democratic Yemen and Pakistan.

The conference unanimously adopted a resolution supporting the Second World Conference for the Reunification of Korea and a resolution of the Solidarity Conference of the Asian Region Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea.

The 2nd World Conference for the Reunification of Korea was held from Nov. 27 to 29 in Tokyo as the effort for the independent, peaceful reunion is receiving ever-increasing global support.

The conference was attended by over 500 delegates from 60 countries in Asia, Africa, North and Latin America, Oceania and Europe. They represent parties and governments, public organisations including the Women's International Democratic Federation, the World Federation of Trade Unions and the International Lawyers Association.

The conference discussed the problems of opposing the "two Koreas" plot of the splittists and removing the danger of new war in Korea, supporting the complete withdrawal of the U.S. forces from south Korea and the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea. A resolution and an appeal were adopted.



The Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned Countries held from July 25 to 30, 1978 in Belgrade, Yugoslavia

(Continued from page 1)

fluence as it accords in full not only with the interests and desire of the Korean people but also with the universal idea of peace and cooperation. This is why the cause of Korea's reunification deserves a broad international support and the support of all countries.

In this, the United States can play an important role in creating conditions for the resumption of the dialogue and for a successful holding of the talks between the north and south, including an action in the spirit of its "pledges" to pull out its troops from south Korea.

In view of the weighty importance of the peaceful reunification of Korea which will be a factor of security and peace in Asia and the world and a symbol of the efforts for solving the complicated questions in a peaceful way in the international theatre, it is in the interests of the Asian peoples and all the countries of the world to support the new constructive proposals of the DPRK.

Reaffirming fraternal solidarity with the Korean people in their struggle for the realization of the reunification of the country, their fundamental desire, the Romanian people most warmly welcome the new proposals of the DPRK and wholeheartedly support them with all conviction, said the article in conclusion.

The Algerian paper "El Moudjahid" Jan. 28 said:

The joint meeting of political parties and public organizations in the northern half of the Republic reaffirmed the principle that the question of Korean reunification must be solved only by the Korean nation, a homogeneous nation, itself independently, on a democratic basis and in a peaceful way.

The Indonesian paper "Merdeka" Jan. 25 said:

Even after the dialogue between the north and south was suspended, we did not give up the hope that the road of dialogue would certainly be opened some day, but have always kept open the door of dialogue.

The patriotic and fair stand clarified by President Kim Il Sung enjoyed the warm welcome of the entire Korean people in the north and south and found a great response among the world public.

The joint meeting considered that the expression of an intention to hold a dialogue between the north and south by a person in south Korean authority is a positive response to the invariable stand of us who keep open the door of dialogue.

The Danish paper "Land Og Folk" Jan. 25 carried a report on the statement of the CC of the DFRF of Korea and Jan. 26 printed an editorial article headlined "Just Proposals."

It stressed that Korea must be reunified under all circumstances independently, in a peaceful way and on the principle of great national unity in accordance with the July 4 north-south joint statement which embodies the three principles of national reunification advanced by President Kim Il Sung. The proposals for national reunification put forward by the CC of the DFRF of Korea are most concrete and reasonable ones.

Noting that only the DPRK could advance such fair and aboveboard proposals, the article emphasized: The reality clearly shows who truly wants the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Gloomy Future of S. Korean Economy

The south Korean economy is becoming seriously bankrupt as the days go by.

In spite of the fact that it faces bankruptcy, the Pak "regime" has put forward a contradictory economic policy of "attaching importance to the stability of people's living and stability of commodity prices" while "maintaining the export-oriented high growth policy line." Those two economic policies, however, are contradictory with each other.

The Pak "regime" is failing into serious confusion as its economic cabinet members are divided on the problem of which policy should choose, "growth" or "stability."

The south Korean economy has become bankrupt, and this problem will not be solved by the Pak "regime."

Although the Seoul "regime" has set its export goal of 15.5 billion dollars and is trying to pursue its "high growth" policy, it will be impossible for it to attain these aims.

On top of this, inflation is getting more and more serious and with a lot of minor enterprises thrown into bankruptcy and the people's living deteriorating.

Heavy Decline of Stock Prices

Here is an interesting episode showing the bankruptcy of the south Korean economy.

The stock market of south Korea, which began to be hit by a depression in the latter half of last year, with stock prices heavily declining, held great attention to Pak Jung Hi's New Year press conference on January 19, hoping that he would set forth a cure-all to overcome the economic crisis. But, the south Korean stock market, which could not get anything good from his words, saw stock prices declining more heavily, with the turnover of shares falling below half the usual volume.

The stock prices dipped below one-third the best level, thus putting investors in a severe plight. Toward the end of last year, about 200 investors held a strike against the Pak "regime."

The depression hitting the stock market and the heavy fall of stock prices show part of the failure of the "high growth" policy of the south Korean authorities.

Faked-Up "Export Performance Figures"

Can the export goal of 15.5 billion dollars which the Pak "regime" has set forth for this year be attained?

As to this problem, most economic institutions, mass media and commentators hold negative and pessimistic views, which are well-grounded.

First of all, they point out that last year's export target was seriously dim.

For example, as of December 16 last year, export of only 580 million dollars was attained against the goal of 1.3 billion dollars set for the month. It was considered impossible to fulfill the unattained 800 million dollars in two weeks.

The Pak "regime," however, faked up deceptive "export performance figures" in order to pretend that the goal had been met.

From June last year, the Pak "regime" sent the minister of commerce and industry to customhouses at the end of every month to advance the customs-clearance of the following month's export goods and bank settlements to be made in the following month.

In this way, the Seoul "regime" faked up an export performance of 12.7 billion dollars.

Aggravated Int'l Payments Position

People are more and more strongly demanding to settle down to the real export-oriented "high growth" policy be re-examined, saying that it is aggravating the international payments position and destroying the people's livelihood as the commodity prices are rocketing.

The Seoul "regime" recorded a trade deficit of 2.35 billion dollars.

Above all its deficit in trade with Japan reached 3.3 billion dollars. Although Seoul secured a surplus of 1.12 billion dollars in invisible trade, human traffic included, it recorded a deficit of 1.227 billion dollars in the current account, worsening its international payments position.

This gave a severe shock to south Korean industry as well as the Pak "regime" so that a strong demand is voiced for a stabilized people's livelihood instead of the "export-oriented" policy.

Worsening Conditions For Exports

Last year the Pak "regime" faked up the "export performance" of 12.7 billion dollars, using various deceptive means. This year, conditions at home and abroad are getting worse for the Seoul "regime."

Firstly, as it is continuing the policy to tighten the control over banking, big enterprises including export-oriented enterprises are in a serious financial situation. They cannot afford to invest a great amount of money in facilities, materials and personnel expenses.

Secondly, trends of industrial powers are getting stronger and restrictions on exports are being strengthened in the EC, Middle East and South East Asian nations as well as in Japan and the U.S., which are also plagued with the world-wide depression.

Thirdly, the world oil prices and the highly raised prices of imported raw materials are making south Korean goods less competitive on the export market. Especially the raised prices of raw materials from Japan are dealing a telling blow at south Korean exporters.

Fourthly, the fact that the more south Korean exports, the larger trade deficit get, is making south Korean exporters unprofitable for the export.

Because of these worsening conditions, even south Korean economic institutes anticipate that it is impossible to hit the 15.5 billion dollar export target.

People's Livelihood Destroyed by Inflation

It is excused that inflation will get severer in south Korea this year than last year, and many reports made public in the beginning of this year say that commodity prices have been raised.

Judging from the critical situation of the south Korean economy resulting from the "high growth" policy, conditions of small enterprises and agriculture will aggravate more than last year.

The number of small enterprises which were closed or went bankrupt was double the number in the year before last, 1977, and the number entering being unable to operate normally.

Contrary to the announcement of the Pak "regime" that last year south Korea attained a bumper harvest, south Korean farmers are suffering from serious losses due to poor crops. Worse still, their difficulties are doubled or trebled because of increased farming expenses and the low purchase prices of rice. The number of farmers who leave their villages, unable to eke out a living, reaches 400,000 annually.

Plan to Push Through $8.5 Billion of Foreign Capital

The south Korean "Economic Planning Board" (EPB) has drawn a plan for the smooth promotion of industrialization under the fourth five-year plan south Korea will induct a total of 3.5 billion dollars in foreign loans and investments in the form of receipt of 500 million dollars over 1978. Foreign capital thus will total 2.5 billion dollars; foreign commercial loans 1 billion dollars.

To this end, the Pak junta is beginning various international monetary organs such as IMF (International Monetary Fund), IBRD (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development), ADB (Asian Development Bank), and IECOK for money and is borrowing vast sums of money through the U.S. and Japan.

In addition to these, the Pak junta intends to bring a public loan from the ECGD and NCB, and south Korea.

Foreign loans the Pak junta wants to secure will be used for the payments of other foreign loans.

Last year, the Pak junta secured 3.3 billion dollars in foreign capital on a commercial basis, and only about 2 billion dollars were actually received.

Of the 2 billion dollars, 1.8 billion dollars had to be used for the repayment of principals and interest.

The south Korean junta has to repay more than 2 billion dollars as interest on foreign loans.

Thus, the realities of the "independent economy", and the "high economic growth of south Korea", about which the Pak junta ballyhoo are nothing but a "dependency dependent on foreign loans" and a "colonial economy dependent on U.S. and Japanese capitalists."

Tass Calls for U.S. Troops' Pullout

Tass January 25 published an article headlined "Against the Deter ent of the Korean People" denouncing the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee for for demanding an indefinite halt of the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea.

The article says:

The American "hawks" and lobbyists of the militaristic-industrial complex have lately stepped up their opposition to the withdrawal of U.S. ground forces from south Korea. The Senate Armed Services Committee came out on January 23 with a demand that the withdrawal of U.S. troops from south Korea be halted indefinitely. Prior to that inspired reports appeared in the American press to the effect that the combat strength of the Seoul "regime" is allegedly "inadequate" compared to the military potential of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and consequently, it is necessary to leave huge contingents of U.S. troops in the Korean Peninsula. Then it was learnt that the U.S. joint chiefs of staff committee is "studying anew the balance of forces in the Korean peninsula in the light of some sort of 'intelligence estimates'." A group of Congressmen in m distely called on the U.S. President Jimmy Carter to halt the pullout pending "review of the situation."

The first contingent of these troops was to leave the Korean Peninsula yet last year, but remains there to this day.

In its time, Washington had broadly advertised the "withdrawal" of ground troops from south Korea, which was to be effected within a period of five years, and used it for building up the "military machine of the Seoul "regime." The Pentagon drew up a broad "compensation programme" for the complete re-equipment and modernization of the south Korean army, to the tune worth 5,000 million dollars. Within the framework of the "compensation" programme for military aid to foreign countries, the 1978 fiscal year of 1978 the Seoul "regime" was allocated military hardware worth 275 million dollars. Furthermore, the congress last year approved the U.S. government's proviso to supply south Korea with war equipment and supplies worth 800 million dollars.

Having received the necessary appropriations and arms for south Korea, the Pentagon began the work to pullout from the Korean Peninsula of land forces. The "preconditions for strengthening" the south Korean "defense" ...

Judging by everything, the Pentagon is hatching plots to put off or frustrate to the desire of the Korean people for the withdrawal of troops and may not only as further sources of tension in the entire South-East Asian region.

18,500 S. Korean Democrats Demand Release Of Political Prisoners

A signature collection campaign is under way among people in all sectors, calling for full release of all political offenders, it was announced by the Pak junta, according to a source from south Korea.

It is said that a total of 18,500 signers reached 18,519 as of Dec. 20, 1978 and that among them were distinguished south Korean personages from the government of the south Korean society.

In this connection, the Pak junta's Korean Human Rights Council," the "South Korean Priests' Group for the Confession of Church," the "South Korean Literary Men's Association," and the "Press Freedom Rescue Committee" made public a statement.

Follows the list of major signers.

1. Yun Bo Sun, Cho Jin Hye, Paek Ki Wan and other democratic personages.

2. Kim Gwan Sok, Mun Dong Hwan, So Nam Dong, Cho Yak Hyon, Ha Yong Jo, Ahn Byong Mu and other Christians

3. The Rev. Chi Gwang Hun, Hyong Jun, Hom Se Ung, Mun Dong Hwa, Kim Byong Sang, Sin Hyon Bong, and other Catholics

4. Kong Dok Kwi, Li U Jong, Cho Sung Ha, Kim Jong Ha, Li Hui Ho and other women fighters

5. Pak Se Gyong, Hong Hong Sun, Li Don Myong, Li Se Jung and other lawyers

6. Li Ho Chol, Ko Un, Paek Rak Chong, Son Gyong Rim, Pak Tae Sun, Li Mun Gu, Hwang Sok Yu and other literary men

7. Chon Gwan U, Son Dong Gu, Hu Ki Hyong, Song Yu Bo, and other journalists

8. Ryang Il Dong, Pak Ryong Kuk, Pyon Hyong Jun, Kwon Dae Yol and other members of the Democratic Unification Party

9. Kim Chol, An Pil Su, Pak Hyong Gu and persons connected with the Socialist Unification Party

10. Li Mal Yong, Kim Dae Jung, Kim Byong Gol, Kim Yun Su, Ryom Mu Ung and other south Korean politicians

11. Kim Han Rim, Kim Yun Hwan, Pak Hyong Gyu and persons concerned with the Council for National Unification

12. Persons concerned with Consolation Sis Bom, Cho Song U, Chong Mun Hwa, Pak Chong Yol, Kim Ha Mun, Hwang Jae Duk, Ryu Hong Jun and other people who violated the "Emergency Measures."

13. Sisters in Songmo, Songsim, Taejon Christian Hospital

14. Democratic citizens of Kwangju, Raju, Muan, Hwanam, Kangjin, Sinan and Hampyong in South Cholla Province

15. Fellow believers in Catholics in Wonju preaching ward

16. Democratic citizens of Chonju, Okku, Iili, Kunsan and Chonju in North Cholla Province

17. A lot of public officials and secret service men

Plan to Push Through $8.5 Billion of Foreign Capital

(Continued from the previous issue)

GI PULLOUT

Pledging to pull US troops out of south Korea through his election campaign, Democrat candidate Jimmy Carter was elected new US president.

Commenting on the Carter administration in an interview with an executive managing editor of the national Japanese daily "Yomiuri Shinbun," Apr. 23, 1977, President Kim Il Sung said as follows:

"In his campaign pledges, Carter said he would withdraw US troops from south Korea and would announce a regime that tramples on human rights. And recently he announced the lift of the ban on travel to some countries including the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. All this can be regarded as a favorable attitude towards our country. But the problem is, what he said in his campaign pledges differs from what he has done since."

In fact, the past two years after Carter's presidential inauguration witnessed an indigenous retreat in the effectuation of his own commitment: the much-advertised US troops withdrawal was reduced merely to a partial phaseout of the ground force alone, leaving air and naval forces intact in south Korea.

In accordance with this direction, in June, 1977, Carter announced that some 33,000 US ground troops in south Korea from the 2nd infantry division and its supporting units, would be brought home gradually over a five-year period ending in 1982 so as not to impair "power balance" on the Korean Peninsula.

Last April Carter revised even this slow-going withdrawal plan, bringing it in tune with Seoul's ado about "threat of north Korea." That is, he cut down the first-staged withdrawal of 6,000 troops originally scheduled during the year 1978, by delaying the pullout of 2,500 of them until this year.

The slow-going pace based on "power balance" allegedly to cope with an imaginary threat was reconfirmed in a "Defense Report" for fiscal 1980 submitted by Defense Secretary Brown to the Congress on Jan. 25.

In this context, special attention should be focused upon what they call the "compensatory measures" taken by Washington in lieu of the withdrawal.

Priority is given to the reinforcement of US air and naval forces in south of the Korean strait. Actually, it was already allocated 275 million-dollar credit for the sale of arms to the Seoul military aid appropriations for fiscal 1978. The congress has approved the administration's plan to turn over to Seoul military equipment and supplies worth 800 million dollars. What is more, 24 squadrons of Korea-US combined forces command" was inaugurated on Nov. 7 in Seoul.

Under the circumstances, even if US ground troops were withdrawn from south Korea by 1982 as scheduled, there would be no substantial change in the status of the American military presence there, which will remain involved in the internal affairs of the Koreans, representing a constant source of tension in the divided peninsula.

And there is no guarantee for the completion of ground troops' withdrawal, as Carter's tenure it due to excise in 1980.

'POWER BALANCE'

Among other things, of late, threatening demands for a halt to the planned GI pullout have been more loudly voiced be the Congress and the uniform, with an outdated version of "threat of north Korea" revived from time to time in Washington.

The latest report, prepared by a Senate armed services committee study group, said that a troop withdrawal program should be based on a "stable military balance" on the Korean Peninsula.

"That balance is now threatened by larger north Korean forces," it said.

Adding that "a war is less likely to occur if US ground forces remain in south Korea," the report argued not only for keeping the outgoing 2d division in south Korea but also for an accelerated modernization and improvement of the south Korean army.

Affirming such claims, Carter, in his "Report on Korea, 1978," submitted to the Congress on Jan. 15, said, "We intend to sustain an effective deterrent to war in Korea based on our firm and continuing defense commitments, assistance to south Korean efforts toward greater self-sufficiency, and withdrawal in review of the withdrawal process and its effects." He held that the US must continue to assist Seoul in its efforts to strengthen its own war capabilities, alleging that "the military threat from north Korea remains serious."

The arguments of "power balance" and "threat of north Korea" emerging from the Carter administration and the Congress are nothing but a replica of the Ford administration's backneyed formula of "equilibrium of terrorism."

In his "Defense Report" for fiscal 1977 presented to the Congress on Jan. 27, 1976, the then Defense Secretary Rumsfeld said that the greatest concern in Northeast Asia is the power balance on the Korean Peninsula. The US would aim to keep and help south Korea maintain the "power balance, with north Korea" if the military assect, he told a joint press interview on May 27 of that year.

Washington's ulterior intention contained in such arguments was made clearer on Nov. 15, 1975 when Kissinger testified before a House appropriations subcommittee panel on the foreign aid bill for fiscal 1976. The former State Secretary disclosed that "there is no other way of protecting the interests of the United States in south Korea but to strengthen the defense capability of south Korea."

After all, the American objective is indefinitely to keep a firm hold on south Korea as a military base, commodity market and colony.

Uncle Sam's unscrupulous outcry of an imaginary threat issues from the unchanged White House policy remaining based on the imperialistic "policy of strength." So far, the successive White House policy ever since after another everywhere on the earth on which they set their feet, in pursuit of ill-famed "gunboat diplomacy."

The disclosure is that Uncle Sam has not given up his ambition to dominate over south Korea through a "divide-and-rule" strategy, with the backing of military force.

(To be continued)

Overseas S. Korean Women Ask For Negotiations with North

Four anti-Pak overseas south Korean women's organizations in Japan, Canada, West Germany and the United States respectively made public a "joint statement in the name of overseas patriotic women," calling on the Pak "regime" to abandon the anti-"communist" policy and start non-governmental negotiations with the north. It was disclosed by the January 6 issue of the Korean language paper "New Korea Times" published in Toronto, Canada.

Follows a gist of the statement made public by the "South Korean Women's Association in Japan," the "South Korean Women's Friendship Association in West Germany," the "South Korean Women's Friendship Association in Canada" and the "Friendship Association of Patriotic Women in the United States."

A new era has come as various nations once oppressed and exploited under colonial rule by the great power of imperialism have gained independence and emerged on an international stage as independent powers. However, our country has been reduced into a barren land where the people are denied the right to life and other basic human rights by the suppressive dictatorship which stands against the international trends of times.

The present regime follows the policy of national division and surrenders the southern part of Korea to foreign powers as their advanced base while enslaving the people and preparing them slavery workers for foreign monopoly capital.

In league with Japanese militarism which intends to reinvade the southern half by maneuvering to pass aggressive laws such as "law for strengthening the Self Defense Forces" and "emergency legislation," the Pak regime is seeking their fortune.

The miserable fact is that the regime is offering Korean women to foreign tourists as prostitutes.

The Pak regime totally suppresses the endeavors of people for their basic right to life, restoration of democracy and human rights, arrest the patriotic figures who have made efforts to strengthen and unify the democratic forces for a democratic and unified country, throws them into prison and tortures them. Therefore, our country has been reduced to a heaven of lawless fore maneuvers and international criminals' bandits.

We believe the purpose of our movement will not be achieved by such means as holding prayer meetings or international conferences, staging hunger-strikes, issuing appeals or declarations when all the other weak powers share the happiness of liberation.

At the beginning of the New Year, we intend to propose a new method of struggle.

The new method is thoroughly to criticize the anti-communist policy of the regime which has become the most powerful weapons for suppressing the people. Mr. Pak's anti-communist policy is a deceptive and pernicious maneuver such as was not found even in the heyday of the Cold War. It is already long since all the anti-communist countries of the world abandoned this policy.

There is no doubt at all that the Pak regime can not avoid a miserable plight however frantically it follow the anti-communist policy. Reason stands against main trends of the time.

We know that, unfortunately, our compatriots in the home country can not resort to this method of struggle for the time being. So, this struggle has to be started abroad. Of course, we are aware that there are some compatriots who, brainwashed by anti-communist ideas, have in touch a full-offensive action. However, the world situation which changes in favor of truth and our patriotic spirit hold us. The Korean Central Intelligence Agency can not do anything as long as our activity is reasonable, just and proper.

Frankly speaking, a general offensive action which we described here is aimed at promoting non-governmental negotiations with the north. We invite our compatriots in the north to the south and we will visit the north as far as possible. When we meet, undertake to lead our native countries in the north as our brothers and sisters of flesh and kin, Mr. Pak's anti-communist propaganda will be rendered powerless. Moreover, if this favourable condition is created, the anti-communist law will be made to sit, prison gates opened, and civil rights restored. In this sense, the day will surely come when anti-communist law which now controls everything will be discarded as a dirty scuttlebutt.

When all the Korean people resolutely strive to develop this kind of friendship movements with the south Korean patriots, unification of our country will be achieved without any outside interference, peacefully and independently at an early date.

Concerned over the future of our fatherland, we declare our resolve to the compatriots.

S. Korean Agriculture under Heavy Pressure of "Industrialization" (3)

"High Economic Growth" Vs Decline of Agriculture

(Continued from the previous issue)

The 2nd five-year plan resulted in an increased imbalance among the industries. It was also reflected in that the decline of agriculture and caused the backwardness of the nation to be largely met by foreign supplies. Its net result was a further deterioration of the national economy on foreign countries.

It is true that it was quite possible to increase agricultural production, the 2nd five-year plan set forth in one of its major task- to secure self-sufficiency in food and increase industrial raw materials and export goods through the increased gainful income for the farming households through rationalized farming methods. But, in fact, this was were far from achieved, however.

Investment in agriculture accounted for 6.5% of the entire investments, far below the target figure of 16.2%.

The position of agriculture in the decision on the over-all economic policy reduced share in the industrial structure which occupied a share in original target figure of 34.0% and the later modified target figure of 28.1%.

The average industrial growth rate during the plan was 14.2%; agriculture, forestry and fisheries 2.0% of mining 20.5%. These figures amounted to the abandonment of the agricultural policy commensurated with growth rate of 4% during the 1956-62 period. It is clear that the "high growth" during the 2nd 5-year plan was attained at the expense of the agricultural section.

Such "high growth" was that of the dependent economy, not that of the independent economy.

This picture is also shown by an examination of increased food production."

The increased rates of rice and wheat were originally set at 39% and 33% in 1971 as against 1965. Other grains were planned to achieve a "high growth rate" as scheduled. Self-sufficient in food supply" was to be attained in 1971. These targets, however, were not met.

Rice production showed an increase in 1971 and wheat in 1972. The 3rd 5-year plan (1972-76) was characterized by drastic revision with increasing loss of its function as a key index for the national economic growth.

At the outset of the plan, a major revision was necessitated. The plan was drafted on the basis of the increased first half-year but in the latter half-year of 1971 its scale was greatly expanded. As a result, the economic performance was upset.

As the "energy crisis" broke out in the latter half-year of 1973, the plan was frequently revised and supplemented.

The economic development plans of south Korea were promoted with emphasis on heavy industries, regardless, not on its own capacity and specific circumstances. Therefore, a change in the outside conditions was bound to bring about a revision of the given "development plan." It inevitably made the so-called "development policy" incapable of proceeding independently.

The "high growth" attained during the 3rd 5-year plan was attributable mainly to the increased foreign investment in the introduction of foreign capital.

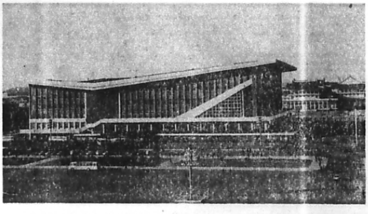
The total amount of thus introduced foreign capital during the plan was $5,810 million, up 50.2% from the original target figure of $3,869 million. The figure was 2.5 times as great as that of the 2nd 5-year plan.

The foreign capital induced stood at $711.6 million in 1972, the first year of the plan and in 1976, it leaped to $1,632.5 mil., or a 2.3 fold increase.

The following problems arose or grew serious during the 3rd 5-year plan. 1) The "development strategy" of excessive emphasis on the export-oriented industrial development. It caused the deepening of ill-balanced growth within the industries or within the same industry. Then, the difference appeared and grew in growth between processing and the manufacturing industry. Furthermore an imbalance rapidly increased between major and minor enterprises and even between the industries. 2) The dependence on foreign countries greatly grew in terms of capital and technique, raw materials the external dependency of the institutions, disclosing the vulnerability of the basis of national economy, 3) The increased debt service and the otherwise balanced distribution of the resources and staggered domestic saving. It placed an obstacle in the way of stabilized growth of the national economy and threatened the stabilization of people's livelihood, 4) No serious attention was paid to the improvement of the infrastructure

A south Korean woman farmer lamenting over a poor crop

Pyongyang Fully Ready to Host Int'l Table Tennis Championships



The Pyongyang Indoor Stadium fully furnished for the 35th World Table Tennis Championships

The 35th World Table Tennis Championships is scheduled in Pyongyang, the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, between April 25 and May 6, 1979.

Now brisk preparations for the championships are progressing under the care of the state.

Shortly after the decision of the General Meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation in Birmingham, Britain, in April, 1977, to hold the 35th World Table Tennis Championships in Pyongyang, the organizing committee of the championships and a number of its sub-committees were formed to make full preparations.

Now the organising committee of the championships is energetically promoting preparations for the successful games, conveniences for the spectators and news coverage by reporters.

The championships will be held in the well-furnished Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, the biggest in the country.

The gymnasium has a lot of 350,000 square metres, a floor space of 66,900 square metres, over 20,000 seats including those for guests, and an arena of 5,000 square metres, and its ceiling is 27 metres high.

It can keep the temperature from 21 to 23 degrees or higher inside and has electric illumination enough not only for games but for indoor cinematographing.

It has eleven training halls for table tennis and other indoor sports, shower bathrooms, 685 rooms of different sizes, and 36 exits.

It swallows up or vomits the flood of spectators in five or six minutes.

Also it has guestrooms, parlors, lounges, and a studio making translation in nine languages and a commentators' studio.

There are buffets, shops and soft drink stands for spectators.

Telex and international phones will be installed in the stadium.

Many internal and international games including the Third Asian Table Tennis Championships (from late April to early May 1976) have been held since it was opened in April 1973.

The boarding conditions for the players, journalists and tourists are also excellent.

The foreign players and team executives will be put up at the Changgwangsan Hotel.

The 18-storeyed buildings of the hotel stand 150 metres from the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium.

The journalists and tourists will be served by a number of modern hotels in Pyongyang.

The organising committee published bulletin No. 1 and No. 2 in English and French and posters "The 35th World Table Tennis Championships," "Welcome" and "Friendship." Songs "Friednship Pyongyang T.T. Championships" and "Pyongyang, a Beautiful City," have been composed and gramophone records of these songs are being made. Various publications such as bulletin No. 3, picture albums, postcards, postage stamps are expected.

Bulletin No. 1 introduced Pyongyang, the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the host city of the 35th WTTC, with pictures, and gives a detailed account of the Pyongyang Gymnasium, the venue of the championships, and its makeup.

It introduces in detaid the Changgwangsan Hotel for players and officials and the Potonggang Hotel and the Pyongyang Hotel for delegations of national associations and other guests and the scenic places in the country.

It gives the information of means of journey, air liners and trains available to the guests and their timetable, and of April weather in the country and clothes suiting it.

It mentions whom the organizers will provide with free meals and hotel accommodation and how we will issue visas, gives application for visa and schedule of matches and deals with medical service the guests will get, banking business and entry forms.

Bulletin No. 2 contains words of the chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administrative Committee welcoming the intending participants and articles contributed by Roy Evans, President of the International Table Tennis Federation, and Tony Brooks, Secretary-General of the ITTF.

It also introduces modern hotel services, training conditions, equipment prepared for the championships, a song of championships, medical services, communications, sightseeing and scenic spots, and so forth.

Roy Evans, President of the ITTF, who visited Pyongyang in June last year, expressed the satisfaction after acquainting himself with the preparations for the championships. He noted:

"The stadium is first class and will provide a truly splendid stage for the highest manifestations of our game. All supporting services are more than adequately provided for.

"The hotels to be used are all modern, providing comfort and excellent food in spacious style."

A poster of the 35th World Table Tennis Championships

Nat'l Skating Championships

Speed skating and ice hockey contests of the Fifth People's Sports Games (winter sports) were held between January 14 and 22 in Kanggye, seat of Chagang Province, and Pujon of South Hamgyong Province, an ice sports training centre of the DPRk.

New national records were set in four speed skating events.

Zagreb Academic Choir Tours DPRK

The Zagreb academic choir "Ivan Goran Kovacic" of Yugoslavia toured the DPRK from Jan. 16 to 24, giving performances in the capital of Pyongyang, the harbour city of Wonsan facing the East Sea, and other places. The academic choir was accompanied by Narcisa Cemalovic, Undersecretary for Education of the Secretariat of Education, Culture and Physical Culture of the Croatia Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia.

President Kim Il Sung on the evening of Jan. 22 saw a peformance of the "Ivan Goran Kovacic" at the Mansudae Art Theatre, together with vice-Presidents Kang Ryang Uk and Pak Sung Chul and Premier Li Jong Ok.

Yugoslav Ambassador to the DPRK Tode Vardzisky and his embassy staff also saw the performance.

The President presented a floral basket to the performers, congratulating them on their successful performance, and faced a camera with them.

On Jan. 17 evening a premiere was given at the Pyongyang Grand Theatre.

The members of the choir who raised the curtain with the chorus of "Song of General Kim Il Sung" won the warm acclaim of the audience for their excellent singing.

The choruses "Macedonian Humoresoue", "A Round Is Starting Up," "Thanksgiving" and "White Bridge" singing the optimistic life and customs of the Yugoslav people, their joyous labour and the beautiful scenery of Yugoslavia in a pleasing rhythm were warmly welcomed by the audience.

The artists delighted the audience by singing well on solo and chorus a popular traditional song of the Yugoslav people. The audience extended a warm applause, when they excellently sang "Song of Freedom," "Mitraillesues" and "Bileceanka" depicting the courage and resoluteness displayed by the Yugoslav people in the struggle for the independence and freedom of the country.

The curtain dropped with the chorus of the Korean song "Long Life and Good Health to the Leader."

On Jan. 18, the "Ivan Goran Kovacic" gave a performance in honour of the diplomatic corps at the grand theatre.

Romanian National Holiday

Paul Marinescu, Ambassador of the Romanian Socialist Republic to the DPRK, hosted a film reception on the evening of January 25 on the occasion of the 120th anniversary of the Union of the Romanian Principalities.

Li Jong Mok, O Mun Han and other personages concerned were guests of honour at the film reception. Present there were staffers of the RSR Embassy in Pyongyang.

The attendants saw a Romanian feature film.

A photo exhibition also opened at the Chollima House of Culture on January 24 on that occasion under the sponsorship of the Korea-Romania Friendship Association.

O Mun Han and other personages concerned attended the opening ceremony of the exhibition together with working people in the capital.

North Hamgyong Province

North Hamgyong Province is situated in the northeast of Korea.

It has a long coast line along the East Sea in the east. The province borders on the U.S.S.R. and China in the northeast and adjoins Ryanggang Province and South Hamgyong Province. Its capital is Chongjin.

The Hamgyong Range, the highest and most rugged range in the DPRK, runs northward to the northeast of the province and many other high peaks such as the Kwanmo Peak rise near the range.

The province is known as a developing industrial district of the DPRK.

The Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Works, a giant metallurgical complex of the nation, turns out pig iron, steel and rolled steel. It has large-scale modern equipment including a 1,500 cubic metre blast furnace, a large continuous sintering furnace with an annual production capacity of 3 million tons which was built during the Six-Year Plan period (1971-1977).

Besides, the province has many other leading works of the iron industry such as the Chongjin Steel Works, the Songjin Steel Works and the Puryong Metallurgical Factory.

North Hamgyong Province with rich underground resources especially coal, has the big northern coal mining areas. The areas consist of the northern coal mining district of North Hamgyong Province covering Hoeryon, Onsong, Saebyol and Undok counties along the Tuman River and the southern coal mining district of this province, including Myonggan, Myongchon and Kilji counties and Kim Chaek City.

There are in the northern coal mining areas scores of coal mines including the large and modern Aoji, Kogonwon, Hakpo and Kocham coal mines.

Shafts have been sunk in many coal mines and the material and technical foundations have also been consolidated. Remote control techniques are applied to transport coal at the Kogonwon, Hakpo and Ryongbuk coal mines.

Since the province has many rivers such as the Tuman River, its power industry is developing at a high pace.

A trubutary of the Tuman River (520.3 km long) flowing along the northern borderline of the country, the Sodusu River had not been turned to account for a long period, but power station builders constructed in a matter of two years a huge dam called Sodusu Power Station.

Today it has developed into a large modern power station whose generating capacity is hundreds of thoudands of kilowatts.

All production processes are controlled by the central panel and Sodusu Power Station No. 1 is remote-controlled at Power Station No. 2.

Home-made 50,000 kw generators installed in Sodusu Power Station No. 2 are operating at full capacity. There are many other power stations in the province such as Puryong, Kocham power stations.

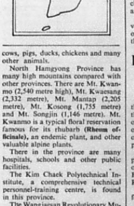
North Hamgyong Province is an important fishing province. It catches Alaska pollack, crayfish, mackerel, cuttelfish, crabs, whales and so on.

Chongjin, the provincial capital, is a newly-built city and is also a famous international port city of the DPRK.

In Chongjin Port, divided into the west port and the east port, are lined with various cranes and warehouses, large and small. Many foreign trade ships visit Chongjin Port.

The province has wide-spread hilly areas suitable for stockbreeding. Among its breeding farms are the Unggi Combined Farm, the Chongsong Combined Farm, the Kyonghung and Hwaryong farms.

Stock breeders of the province raise



cows, pigs, ducks, chickens and many other animals.

North Hamgyong Province has many high mountains compared with other provinces. There are Mt. Kwanmo (2,540 metre high), Mt. Kwaesang (2,332 metre), Mt. Mantap (2,205 metre), Mt. Kosong (1,755 metre) and Mt. Songjin (1,146 metre). Mt. Kwanmo is a typical floral reservation famous for its rhubarb **(Rheum officinale)**, an endemic plant, and other valuable alpine plants.

There in the province are many hospitals, schools and other public facilities.

The Kim Chaek Polytechnical Institute, a comprehensive technical personnel-training centre, is found in this province.

The Wangjaesan Revolutionary Museum is located 4km away from the railway station of Onsong City. It was built in 1974. This museum with a floorspace of 8,500 square metres consists of a front hall, 15 rooms and a panoramic hall where there are pictures showing scenes of people's struggle in the 1930's.

Pyongyang Children Musicians Applauded by Indians

A scene of the art performance by the Pyongyang School Children's Art Troupe which drew enthusiastic applause of Japanese people in May, last year.

The Pyongyang school children's art troupe gave successful performances in Kanpur and Calcutta in India. The well-known boy-and-girl Korean artists visited the sub-continental country from Jan. 4 to 25. The children's goodwill cultural mission had so far visited Japan, Bulgaria and Argentine, given a favourable reception in each country.

A special performance was arranged on Jan. 18 for Indian President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy and his wife at the Presidential Palace. Governmental officials were invited to see the performance. Also present there were the DPRK Ambassador to India and the head of the art troupe.

Prior to the performance, the head courteously conveyed the cordial greetings of President Kim Il Sung to the Indian President. President Reddy expressed deep thanks for this and asked the head to convey his cordial regards and heartfelt wishes to President Kim Il Sung.

After seeing the peformance, the Indian President said:

I am very happy to meet lovely Korean children's art troupe from afar.

Korean children sing vigorously and well. Today's performance is a very excellent one of high level.

The performance of Korean children has made a great contribution to the development of friendly relations between India and Korea.

Today I spent the happiest time with lovely Korean children. The children are the treasure of the nation for its future.

The Korean children are lovely, highly talented artistically and educated well. They are praiseworthy children.

At the end of the performance the President faced a camera with the art troupe.

The performances in Kanpur and Calcutta gained a public favour, with the theatres of the two cities packed to capacity every day.

Each number presented by little Korean artists who raised the curtain with the chorus of "Song of General Kim Il Sung" firmly gripped the hearts of the audience and won their warm acclamation for its high ideological and artistic level and originality. Each number was encored with stormy applause and cheers.

Unable to repress their deep emotion, many spectators mounted the stage and warmly hugged young artists, heartily congratulating them upon their successful performance.

Audiences stinted no praise.

The governor of Kanpur had this to say:

On behalf of the entire people of Kanpur, I extend deepest thanks to the great leader President Kim Il Sung for having sent the Pyongyang school children's art troupe.

I know well that the respected and beloved leader President Kim Il Sung is a great person who established the most superior socialist educational system in the world and rears children to be able scientists and artists, calling them the "king" of the country.

Nihwa Das, dancer of the Kanpur national dance troupe, said:

I have been a dancer for over 30 years. But I have seen such a perfect dance for the first time.

The chief minister of West Bengal had this to say:

The Korean children are endowed with wonderful artistic talent and are intelligent. They delighted us with an excellent performance. If I missed the performance today I would have regretted it in my whole life and made a big mistake.

Adhid Chakravarti, information and cultural adviser of West Bengal, said:

Seeing the performance today, I realized that Korean children are so refined, skillful and reliable artists that one can hardly believe that they are school children.

We were fascinated by the bright, clean and graceful dance costumes, the bright smiles like sunflowers in full bloom in the morning sunrays and beautiful rhythmic dances.

World Bulletin

•A get-together was held in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, on Jan. 27 on the occasion of the Lunar New Year. Present there were Chairman Hua Guofeng, vice-Chairman Ye Jianying. Music, dances, Beijing opera, acrobatic numbers and puppet shows were performed and gymnastics, wushu and table tennis took place.

•A national speed skating competition of China was recently held for four days in Urumqi, the seat of the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region. The competition was participated in by 174 men and women skaters selected. Four skaters set national records in five events.

•A meeting of presidents of the sports organizations of socialist countries was held in Moscow between Jan. 25 and 26. The attendants exchanged views on the development of sports and Olympic movement, the holding of Olympic Games and perfection of its schedule and other wide-range problems.

•The first conference of non-aligned journalists' organizations was held in Baghdad between Jan. 21 and 24. It discussed the problem of developing cooperation among journalists' organizations of non-aligned countries and the problem of jointly striving to establish a new international order of information and communication. A final declaration was adopted on these problems. The conference decided to set up the coordinating bureau of non-aligned journalists' organizations.

•An agreement on the mutual delivery of commodities and payments for 1979 was signed in Beijing recently between China and the German Democratic Republic.

•A demonstration was held on Jan. 14 in Berlin to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the death of German workers' leaders Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg. Marching at the head of the 200,000-man demonstration was Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the GDR State Council.

•The 1979 agreement on commodity delivery and payments between the Governments of the Peoole's Republic of China and the Bulgarian People's Republic was signed in January in Beijing.

•Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the GDR State Council, paid a state visit to India between Jan. 8 and 12. Talks were held between the German Chairman and Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai. A long-term agreement on cooperation in economy, industry and science and technology between the two countries and a series of other documents were signed during the visit. A GDR-India joint statement was issued at the end of the visit.

•The 1979 trade protocol was signed between the Soviet Union and Romania in Moscow in January.

•The Cuban constructors greeted the 20th anniversary of the victory of the revolution with new successes in their labour. Cuba has more than 30 big complexes engaged in building industrial enterprises. Over 120 workteams are in charge of the construction of educational and medical organs, more than 200 workteams construct agricultural setups. The number of builders has considerably increased in Cuba in the past years, over four times that before revolution. Sugar factories and non-ferrous metal works have been built or reconstructed and expanded in different parts of the country

•A factory in Khartsiszk, Ukraine, the Soviet Union, has started producing metal pipes durable up to 120 atmospheric pressures. These pipes will be used as gas pipes mainly in the arctic region.

•A modern chemical fertilizer plant was recently built and put into operation in Guizhou Province, China. The construction of the plant started in October, 1974. The plant will annually produce 300,000 tons of synthetic ammonia.

•The working people of the German Democratic Republic have achieved new successes in all fields of socialist construction last year. The national income increased 4 percent and labour productivity went up over 5 percent.

•The construction of a railway line between Krasnodar and Tuapse on the Black Sea has been concluded. It required the building of 432 bridges and tunnels on some one hundred kilometers of track traversing the Caucasus range.

News Dispatch From Pyongyang

Jan. 15

• Edward M. Sokoine, Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania, received Chong Nam Ho, Ambassador of the DPRK to his country.

Jan. 16

• A delegation of the Korean Journalists Union headed by Pak Jae U left Pyongyang by plane to attend a meeting of journalists' organizations of non-aligned countries scheduled in Iraq.

Jan. 17

• A 1979 protocol on the mutual delivery of commodities was signed in Cairo between the governments of the DPRK and the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Jan. 19

• A delegation of the DPRK headed by Kim Chung Il left Pyongyang by plane to attend the extraordinary meeting of foreing ministers of the Coordination Committee of Non-Aligned Countries to be held in Mozambique.

• A delegation of the Secretariat of the International Institute of the Juche Idea headed by Kenichi Okami, its Deputy Director, arrived in Pyongyang by plane.

• A government trade delegation on the Republic of Cuba headed by German Amado Blanco, First Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade, arrived in Pyongyang by plane.

Jan. 20

• The Central People's Committee of the DPRK published decrees on appointing Chong Nam Ho as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the DPRK to the Republic of Mauritius and Pak Min Sop as ambassador of the DPRK to the Republic of Maldives.

• Vishwa Nath, General Secretary of the "Indian Society for the Study of the Juche Idea" and Chief Editor of "Indian Times," arrived in Pyongyang by plane.

Jan. 23

• A sports delegation of the DPRK headed by Kim Yu Sun left Pyongyang by air to attend the meeting of presidents of sports organisations of socialist countries to be held in Moscow.

(KCNA)

Swedish Scribe Looks at Socialist Korea

Swedish writer-journalist Lasse Berir recently published his impressions of the DPRK over Swedish Radio No.1, according to a report.

He pointed out that President Kim Il Sung advanced the line of building an independent national economy relying on the country's natural resources, technique and cadres.

Noting that at a cooperative farm of Korea he saw for himself it has made a technical progress and outstripped the level of advanced countries in grain production, he spoke about the happy life of co-op farmers.

Korea's industry meets 98 per cent of the nation's demand for machinery with its own products and she has become an industrial state, he stressed.

He said:

What impressed me deeply is that industrialisation in Korea has taken a unique course.

Industrialisation took Western countries quite a long time. But, Korea enforced various social measures, such as free medical service, free education and abolition of taxation and built an independent industry dependent on her own raw materials and techniques in a short period of time.

I was deeply impressed by the educational system of Korea.

Enforced in Korea is the universal 11-year compulsory education which gives schooling to all schoolage children.

Korea plans to introduce a higher compulsory education in the near future.

Workers and peasants are embraced in the educational system under which they study while working.

Korea rears students to be reliable reserves of socialist and communist construction well prepared mentally, morally and physically.

In Korea state administration is done by her own cadres.

The school system is uniform in all things including educational facilities, so there are no differences between town and country.

After school children cultivate their talents to the full at the students and children's palaces.

While visiting Korea, I got a deep impression that the Korean people are building the country in a unique way.

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